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California, upon what he considers, with a question, *Quercus hindsii*. Our first specimens of this gall were received some ten years ago from Sonoma county, the oak not being determined, but we subsequently received specimens from San Mateo, Cal., from Dr. L. D. Morse, who is quite a good botanist, and who determined the oak as *Quercus douglasii*. We exhibited specimens of the gall to Mr. Bassett in 1871, and also presented some to Mr. Albert Müller, of Basle (then of England), who refers to it under our MSS. name of *Quercus-californica* in the Proceedings of the London Entomological Society for 1872, p. 32.

Aside from the various parasites which prey upon the Cynips, we have always found these galls to be infested with the beetle¹ above mentioned. Mr. Müller gives an account of his observations on the habits of this insect, showing that it agrees therein with *Anobium*. We would further remark that the beetle breeds in the dry galls and still continues its work in galls that have been in our cabinet over five years.

ANTHROPOLOGY.²

THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA.—A very important document to the ethnologist is the preliminary report of Mr. Ivan Petroff to General Walker, upon the Population and Resources of Alaska, forming executive document No. 40, 46th Congress, 3d Session. The author was sent out by General Walker last year for this special service, for which he is peculiarly fitted by his thorough knowledge of both Russian and English. In the prosecution of his labors he traveled 4500 miles by steamer, 2500 by canoe, 1700 by sailing vessel; a total distance of 8700 miles. Our entire Alaskan country as far north as the Yukon was examined, and tabulated reports are given, village by village, of the inhabitants. The people of the Territory may be divided as follows: 1. The Innuït or Eskimo race, which predominates in numbers and covers the littoral margin of all Alaska, from the British boundary on the Arctic to Norton sound, of the Lower Yukon and Kuskokvim, Bristol bay, the Alaskan peninsula, and Kodiak island, mixing in, also, at Prince William sound. 2. The Indians proper, spread over the vast interior in the north, reaching down to the seaboard at Cook's inlet and the mouth of Copper river, and lining the coast from Mount Saint Elias southward to the boundary, and peopling Alexander Archipelago. 3. Least in numbers but first in importance, the Aleutian race, extending from the Shumagin islands westward to Atto—the *ultima Thule* of this country. The grand total of population is: whites, 392; Creoles, 1683; Aleuts, 2214; Innuïts of Kodiak, 2196, of Togiak, 1826, of Bristol bay 2099, of Kuskokvim, 3505, of Yukon, 3359, of Behring sea, 1533, of the

¹ *Anobium cornutum* Lec., Proc. Phila. Acad., 1859, p. 87. Subsequently made the type of a new genus, *Ozognathus*, *ibid.*, 1865, p. 226.

² Edited by Prof. OTIS T. MASON, Columbian College, Washington, D. C.

Arctic coast, 2990; Indians 8401—total 30,178. The appearance and habits of the natives are also described, and a map gives the locality of all the places mentioned. The writer is exceedingly happy in his style, and the student will be agreeably disappointed who expects to find in this report a mere mass of arid details.

LANDA'S ALPHABET.—The story of the Abbé Brasseur de Bourbourg and his discovery of the Landa alphabet in the archives of the Royal Academy of Madrid in a manuscript entitled "Relacion de las Cosas de Yucatan," has been told again and again. Nothing daunted by these frequent repetitions, Mr. Philipp Valentini, the learned Mexicologist, advances to the front in a paper published in the April number of the *Am. Antiquarian* for 1880. We had occasion to speak of the judicious treatment of this subject by Professor Rau in his Palenque Tablet volume. Professor Valentini sets out with the assumption that the alphabet is a Spanish fabrication, that the Central American hieroglyphics stood for objects and nothing else, and that the believers in this alphabetic table were laboring under a delusion. The literature of the Conquest, particularly the Mendoza codex, is invoked in confirmation of this view. Coming to Bishop Landa himself, Mr. Valentini first examines his text and rejects it as insufficient; the remainder of the paper is devoted to the alphabet. Its genuineness is questioned on the following grounds: 1. The number of letters does not agree with that of the Maya sounds; 2. The succession is the same as in the English Alphabet, though this is allowed to be not improbable; 3. There are various characters for the letters *a*, *b*, *l*, *o*, *p* and *u*; 4. Attention is called to the fact that though this may be an alphabet, it is not *the* Maya alphabet. Indeed, the presumed phonetic key represents nothing else than one of the various attempts made by the Spanish missionaries to teach their Yucatecan pupils how to write the prayers or any other text phonetically by means of symbols. In attempting to substantiate his position, and to interpret the glyphs, however, the author finds himself in the presence of abbreviated and conventionalized symbols without even the Mendoza codex to guide him. Notwithstanding, he plants his foot firmly upon the three following principles previously to making another step: All Central American hieroglyphics are either representations of (1) natural or (2) manufactured objects, or (3) they are symbols—objects conventionally chosen to represent some abstract idea. The twenty-seven letters of Landa are explained as follows: 1. *a* = *ac*, a turtle; 2. *a* = *ach*, obsidian knife; 3. *a* = *a*, the leg (in Quiche), 4. *b* = *be*, a path or footprint; 5. *b*, unexplained; 6. *c* = *tsac*, the fifth Maya month; 7. *t* = *te*, counting years, the sun; 8. *é* = *eeh*, black; 9. *h* = *haab*, the year tied up; 10. unexplained; 11. *ca* = *caa*, to pull out hair; 12. *k* = *cimich*, death or skull; 13. unexplained; 14. *l* = *elel*, the pod of the oxalis; 15, 17, 18. unexplained; 16.

n = *ne*, tail; 19. p = *pek*, dog; 20. pp = *ppec*, stone; 21. *cum*, the guacal gourd; 22. ku = *kuk*, to bud like the cactus; 23. x = *chuy*, a bunch, as of bananas; 24. x = *xe*, to vomit; 25. 26. u = *uuc*, to bend, to wind; 27. z = *tzee*, to mash corn.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN.—The 27th Annual Report of this society reminds us of the very great amount of good which can be accomplished with limited means. The report of the operations of the society touches anthropology at several points. There is a committee on Indian history and nomenclature, consisting of Messrs. Chapman, Butler, Conover, Durrie and Hutchison; another on prehistoric antiquities, to which belong, in addition to some of those above mentioned, Messrs. Perkins, Allen and Giles. Another committee is charged with collecting the history of the early settlements. The society is the trustee of the State collections, and holds all its present and future collections and property for the State.

AMERICA AND THE EAST.—In a paper reproduced in part from Mr. C. N. Holford in the *Kansas City Review* of Feb., is another of the many occurrences of what might be called the "double-corner" of archæology, from the game of checkers. We are in the presence of a vessel or a sculpture from Mexico which reminds one very much of the hoary civilization of Egypt. The interminable game begins between the assumption that similarity of technique demonstrates consanguinity, or at least contact; and that the human mind, being one, unfolds itself similarly under like environments.

HARVARD LIBRARY BULLETINS.—No. 17 of these publications gives a list of the more important accessions to the library during the past year. A goodly number of these are upon anthropology and are accredited to the Peabody Museum of Archæology.

ANTIQUITIES OF PERU.—A. Asher & Co., of Berlin, are preparing to publish in ten parts, folio, a magnificent work by W. Riess and A. Stübel, entitled "The Necropolis of Ancon in Peru: a series of Illustrations of the Civilization and Industry of the empire of the Incas, being the results of excavations made upon the spot." The edition in English is limited to 250 copies, 100 of which have been taken by Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co., who have the exclusive sale of the work in America.

ANTHROPOLOGY IN FRANCE.—The October number of *Revue d'Anthropologie*, closing the third volume of the second series, is one of exceedingly great interest. The opening article by Dr. Pozzi, is an eulogy upon Dr. Paul Broca, the most distinguished French anthropologist, and the founder of the "Ecole d'Anthropologie," and the "Laboratoire d'Anthropologie," of Paris. Accompanying the sketch is a photograph of Dr. Broca, and a complete bibliography of his writings, pages 592-608, extending from 1847 to 1880, and embracing nearly five hundred titles. At

the close of the number, pages 722-738, will be found the funeral discourses by M. Eugène Pelletan, in the name of the Senate; M. Verneuil, for the Faculty of Medicine; M. Trélat, for the Academy of Medicine; M. Tillaux, for the Chirurgical Society; M. Dumont-Pallier, for the Biological Society; M. Gariel, for the French Association; M. Ploix, for the Society of Anthropology; and M. Henri Martin, on behalf of the Institute. Dr. Gavarret, formerly President of the Société d'Anthropologie, and at present Inspector-General of the Medical Schools of France and Professor in the Faculty of Medicine, at Paris, succeeds Dr. Broca as President of the School of Anthropology. The unaffected sorrow which has found expression in other anthropological societies and journals, besides those in his own country, is keenly felt on this side of the Atlantic by many who have delighted to sit at the feet of the deceased savant. Dr. Broca (born on the 28th of June, 1824—died, July 8-9, 1880), can scarcely be thought to have reached "the summit of his curve." Cut off in the midst of his arduous labors he has left a void in the heart of his pupils and colleagues which it will be impossible to fill.

Though somewhat overshadowed by the account of Dr. Broca, the remaining matter of the *Revue* is quite up to the standard. The original papers are: *Etudes d'Anthropométrie sur les Canons Anthropologiques*. 1. *Du Tronc*, by Paul Topinard, pp. 609-620; *Les Negres chez eux, ou études ethnographiques sur les Populations de la Côte-d'Or (Côte occidentale d'Afrique)*, by M. A. T. Mondière, pp. 621-650 (to be continued); *Excursion Anthropologique au Sahara* (1880), by Dr. H. Weisgerber; pp. 651-668. Dr. Topinard criticises at length M. G. de Rialle's volume in the Bibliothèque Utile entitled, *Les peuples de l'Afrique et de l'Amerique*, published in Paris, 1880, by Balliere et Cie.

The number closes with a résumé of works on prehistory; climography of Algeria; Anthropological Journals of France, Italy, England and Germany; and a list of anthropic papers read at the French Association, p. 738.

SEPULCHRAL MOUNDS AND COSTUME IN JAPAN.—In Vol. VIII, Pt. III, Translations of the Asiatic Society of Japan, pp. 313-332, will be found an important paper by Ernest Satow, upon ancient sepulchral mounds in Kaudzuki province. The author makes honorable mention of Professor Morse's important discoveries in the shell heaps of Omori and then proceeds to describe the burial-mounds. Two forms are mentioned, the circular tumuli, apparently for persons of inferior rank, and the double tumuli, from one of which was obtained a large collection of pottery, iron weapons, articles of bronze and blue glass beads. These twin mounds *Futa-go yama*, lie east and west, the west end being square, the eastern, round, and the middle, contracted. The east end contains the tomb, opening south, and is divided into three sections, the outer passage, the sacrificial chapel, and the vault.

Many of the stones forming the roof are very large. "Each mound seems to have been built up in three tiers, on the top of each of which was a fence formed of a row of terra cotta pipes about two feet high, connected by wooden poles or bamboo passed through holes about half way from the base. The paper is illustrated with forty-three figures, some of which resemble pueblo and central American specimens (Figs. 2-5), and a careful examination of them will well repay those who are engaged in the study of comparative archæology.

Equally interesting and valuable is Mr. Josiah Conder's paper in the same number, pp. 333-368, on the History of Japanese Costume, and we regret the want of space for an abstract.

ETHNOGRAPHY AND PHILOLOGY OF AMERICA.—As an appendix to H.W. Bates' "Central America, the West Indies and South America," London, 1878, 8vo, the ethnologist A. H. Keane, B. A., has published an article of one hundred and twenty-eight pages, entitled "Ethnography and Philology of America." In the introductory part the author shows considerable judgment and sound reasoning power, but the descriptive portion of the article contains so many defects, that we cannot recommend it without reserve to students of ethnography and linguistics, in spite of all the industrious study which evidently was bestowed on it. The great mistake made by Keane is that of introducing simultaneously a linguistic and a racial (or anthropologic) division of the American natives. What do the Utchees, f. i., have in common with the Cherokees, and these with the Natchez and Catawbias, all of which Keane classed into one group of "*Appalachian Races*"? Does, according to Keane, proximity of the *present* homes of a people prove racial affinity or similarity? The Tutēlos are classed by him under the Iroquois stock, the Mandans are made a sub-tribe of the Minitari, and the Lower Creeks identified with the Seminoles. An *ethnologic* family of Klamath River Indians never existed in Northern California, and Keane's Lower Californians are simply Yuma Indians. Carr's linguistic division of the Pueblo Indians of New Mexico (p. 479) would be nearly correct, if Nos. 2, 3 and 4 were combined into one stock. For the tribes of the interior of Southern Mexico, of Nicaragua, of Costa Rica, of the Isthmus, of New Granada, not even an attempt of linguistic classification is made, although much material has been published recently on this interesting subject. In the alphabetical catalogue of tribes many typographic errors are noticeable. Besides these, we find the following: Aruaquais are mentioned separate from the Arawaks or "flour-eaters," the Andaicos from the Nandakoes (Texas), the Mollale from Mollalas and Molels, congeners of the Cayuses (Oregon). The Goajiros of Venezuela, who speak a language clearly akin to the Carib family, are made Dariens and classified with the Isthmian family. Among the tribes of the Guaicuru family of the Gran Chaco, on the Paraguay river, the important

Mocobi or Mbocobi tribe is not mentioned, but considered as forming, with the Toba and Abiponian dialect, a linguistic family separate from the Guaicuru. In this particular he has copied Balbi; but Balbi is formally contradicted by the Brazilian traveler Martius (*Beiträge* 1, pp. 232, 780), who gives the missionary Dobritzhofer as his authority. The Texan tribe of the Tonkawas is relegated into Florida, and the Piqua regarded as an extinct Algonkin tribe, while it continues to flourish at the present time as a clan of the Shawnees or Shawanoes.

For advancing our knowledge of American ethnology and linguistic topography, not much is to be gained by copying and extracting modern and ancient authors who have not personally seen the tribes of which they give accounts. The number of false and inaccurate statements in this respect is simply enormous, especially regarding Central and South America. Reliable information on all these subjects can only be expected from future expeditions, made by conscientious travelers into the imperfectly explored regions of both American continents.—*Alb. S. Gatschet.*

GEOLOGY AND PALÆONTOLOGY.

DISCOVERY OF THE PREGLACIAL OUTLET OF THE BASIN OF LAKE ERIE INTO THAT OF LAKE ONTARIO.¹—This is the subject of a lengthy paper recently read before the American Philosophical Society, of which Dr. Spencer gives the following summary:

1. The Niagara escarpment after skirting the southern shores of Lake Ontario, bends at nearly right angles in the neighborhood of Hamilton, at the western end of the lake; thence the trend is northward to Lake Huron. At the extreme western end of the lake this escarpment (at a height of about 500 feet) encloses a valley gradually narrowing to four miles, at the meridian of the western part of the city of Hamilton, where it suddenly closes to a width of a little more than two miles to form the western end of the Dundas valley (proper). This valley has its two sides nearly parallel and is bounded by vertical escarpments which are capped with a great thickness of Niagara limestone, but having the lower beds of the slopes composed of Medina shales. On its northern side the escarpment extends for six miles to Copetown, but westward of this village it is covered with drift, but it is not absent. On its southern side the steep slopes extend for less than four miles to Ancaster, where they abruptly end in a great deposit of drift, which there fills the valley to near its summit, but which is partly re-excavated by modern streams forming gorges from two to three hundred feet deep. To the north-eastward of Ancaster these gorges are cut down through drift to nearly the present lake-level. Westward of Ancaster, a basin occupying a hundred

¹ *Discovery of the Preglacial Outlet of the Basin of Lake Erie into that of Lake Ontario.* With Notes on the Origin of our Lower Great Lakes. By J. W. SPENCER, B.A.Sc., Ph.D., F.G.S., King's College, Windsor, N. S.